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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany/USSR

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SUBJECT Reduced East German Grain Imports from the USSR

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Minister Gregor has been in Moscow since 4 January 1954. He informed East German authorities that during the first quarter of 1954 not more than 20,000 metric tons of barley and 5,000 metric tons of oats will be sent to East Germany by the Soviet Union. At the same time Gregor asked Premier Grotewohl to contact Malenkov directly in order to ask for additional deliveries of fodder grain from the Soviet Union to East Germany.
2. The information from Gregor is in general agreement with the loading graphs set up for the first quarter 1954 by Export-Chleb Moscow. These graphs indicate that during that period 15,000 metric tons of barley will be shipped to East Germany overland via Brest-Litovsk and 3,000 metric tons by sea, and 2,000 metric tons of oats will be shipped by rail and 2,000 metric tons by ship. ILLEGIB ILLEGIB
3. During this period 236,000 metric tons of barley are needed. In addition to the imports mentioned above, only approximately 30,000 metric tons of barley are available from the stocks at the beginning of 1954. This situation calls for State Secretary Stresemann to be authorized for Procurement and Purchase of Agricultural Products, to carry out the procurement of 206,000 metric tons of barley which is to be used for fattening pigs during the first quarter of 1954. This barley will be used by farmers and large-scale pork raising units (Industrie-mast) will have feed for 400,000 pigs. Thus, the majority of these animals will be slaughtered before reaching proper size and weight. LEGIB

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